

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 and cancel claims 25-30, all as shown below. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute any originally presented or withdrawn claims in a future or continuing application. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for combining at least a portion of a plurality of images, comprising the steps of:

obtaining a first image and a second image, wherein at least a portion of said first image and said second image include a common field of view;

adjusting at least a portion of said first image to reduce an image disparity between said common field of view of said first image and said second image, wherein said adjusting step further comprises:

determining a plurality of disparity differences between at least a portion of said first image and at least a portion of said second image, each of said plurality of disparity differences corresponding to a distance of adjustment of said first image with respect to said second image; [[and]]

selecting a distance corresponding to a lowest disparity of difference as a first distance; and

shifting said first image said first distance with respect to said second image; and
combining at least a portion of said first image and at least a portion of said second image subsequent to said step of adjusting.

2-3. (Canceled).

4. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further including the step of:

adjusting said second image to reduce said image disparity between said common field of view of said first image and said second image.

5. (Original) The method of Claim 4, wherein said step of adjusting said second image includes shifting said second image a second distance.
6. (Original) The method of Claim 5 wherein said second distance is a distance where the image disparity is reduced.
7. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of:
warping said first image and said second image into a common coordinate system of a composite image subsequent to said step of obtaining.
8. (Original) The method of Claim 1 further including the step of:
cross-fading said common field of view of said first image and said second image, subsequent to said step of adjusting.
9. (Withdrawn) A method for combining frames of video from a plurality of cameras arranged in a camera array, comprising the steps of:
obtaining a first frame from a first camera, and a second frame from a second camera, wherein at least a portion of said first frame and said second frame include a common field of view;
stretching at least a portion of said first frame to reduce an image disparity between said common field of view of said first frame and said second frame; and,
combining said common field of view of said first frame and said second frame subsequent to said step of stretching.
10. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9, wherein said step of stretching at least a portion of said first frame includes stretching at least a portion of said first frame a first distance.
11. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 10 wherein said first distance is a distance where disparity is reduced.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9, further including the step of:
stretching said second frame to reduce said disparity between said common field of view of said first frame and said second frame.
13. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 12, wherein said step of stretching said second frame includes stretching said second frame a second distance.
14. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9 wherein said step of stretching includes the steps of:
determining a plurality of disparity differences between at least a portion of said first frame and at least a portion of said second frame, each disparity difference corresponding to a distance of stretching of said first frame and said second frame; and
selecting a distance corresponding to a lowest disparity difference in said plurality of disparity differences as a stretching distance; and,
stretching at least a portion of said first frame and said second frame such that a total stretching of said first and second frames approximately equals said stretching distance.
15. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9 further including the step of:
warping said first frame and said second frame into a common coordinate system of a composite frame subsequent to said step of obtaining.
16. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 9 further including the step of:
cross-fading said common field of view of said first frame and said second frame, subsequent to said step of stretching.
17. (Withdrawn) A method for combining a plurality of images captured from a plurality of cameras of a camera array into a panoramic image, comprising the steps of:
adjusting a first portion of a first image to reduce image disparity between said first portion of said first image and a second image;

adjusting a second portion of said first image to reduce image disparity between said second portion of said first image and a third image; and,
combining said first image, said second image, and said third image into a panoramic image.

18. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 17 further including the step of:
warping said first image, said second image, and said third image into a common coordinate system of a composite image subsequent to said step of obtaining.

19. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 17 further including the step of:
cross-fading said adjusted first portion of said first image with at least a portion of said second image, and
cross-fading said adjusted second portion of said first image with at least a portion of said third image.

20. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 17 wherein said step of adjusting said first portion of said first image includes stretching said first portion of said first image a first distance; and
wherein said step of adjusting said second portion of said first image includes stretching said second portion of said first image a second distance.

21. (Withdrawn) The method of Claim 20 further including the steps of:
stretching at least a portion of said second image a third distance; and
stretching at least a portion of said third image a fourth distance.

22. (Previously presented) An apparatus for producing a panoramic video, comprising:
a camera array including a plurality of cameras;
an image obtaining device, wherein said image obtaining device obtains a first image from a first camera in said camera array and a second image from a second camera in said camera array, wherein said first image and said second image include a common field of view;

an image adjustor, wherein said image adjustor adjusts at least a portion of said first image to reduce an image disparity between said common field of view of said first image and said second image and wherein the image adjustor is adapted to:

determine a plurality of disparity differences between at least a portion of the first image and the second image, each disparity difference corresponding to a distance of adjustment of the first image with respect to the second image;

select a distance corresponding to a lowest disparity difference in said plurality of disparity differences as a first distance; and

shift the first image said first distance with respect to said second image; and,

an image combiner, wherein said image combiner combines at least a portion of said first image and at least a portion of said second image.

23. (Canceled).

24. (Withdrawn) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein said image adjustor adjusts at least a portion of said first image by stretching said first image a first distance.

25-30. (Canceled).